



To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury,  
determined by Order No. P-2142/21.06.2024  
of the Vice Rector of Science and Research of Medical University - Plovdiv  
15A "V. Aprilov" Blvd.  
4002 Plovdiv

In reference with Protocol No1/25.06.2024

### STATEMENT

on a competition for the academic position " Associate Professor"  
in scientific specialty "Pediatrics"  
announced for the needs of Medical University-Plovdiv, category "Obstetrics and  
Gynecology"  
in State Gazette, issue No. 35/19.04.2024

Reviewer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ina Evgenieva Geneva

Scientific specialties: 1. Pediatrics

2. Pediatric neurology

Institution Department of Pediatrics , Medical University, Plovdiv

Заличено на основание  
Чл.5 §1, б."В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

Plovdiv 4002.

## **I. Analysis of the candidate's career profile**

Dr. Penka Vasileva Petleshkova-Angelova graduated from the Higher Medical Institute in Plovdiv in 1993, Master of Medicine. Acquired a specialty in Children's Diseases in 2000, and in 2012 acquired a specialty in Neonatology. Since 2020 she has got a master degree in "Health Management", UARD – Plovdiv. The beginning of her professional path began at MHAT-Pazardzhik in the Children's Polyclinic Department (1993-1995; Children's Department - 1995-1998 and Neonatology Department - 1998-2010). In 2009, she began working the Department of Neonatology at the UMHAT "St. George" Plovdiv, in the department of neonatology and continues to work. Her academic development began as an assistant professor in 2012 in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and in 2022 she became the chief assistant. She has obtained the academic degree "Doctor/PhD" in 2020. He is a member of the Bulgarian Pediatric Association, the Bulgarian Association of Neonatology and the Bulgarian Scientific Society for Public Health. He speaks English - level B2 and Russian - level B1.

## **II. General description of the submitted materials for the competition.**

Dr. Penka Retleshkova presents for review a complete set of materials in accordance with the requirements for content and arrangement of the the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the Medical University-Plovdiv for the acquisition of academic position "Associate Professor".

## **III. Assessment of the scientific studies of the candidate for the overall academic development.**

### *1. General characteristics of scientific production and publication activity*

The scientific works that Dr. Penka Vasileva Petleshkova-Angelova presents for this procedure as follows: 1 monograph and 25 publications. Of the publications, 14 are in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science (7 of which in IF journals). Publications in non-referred peer-reviewed journals and edited collective issues are 11.

Dr. Petleskova is the first author in 8 publications, 3 publications have been published are in issues referred and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science and 7 of which in journals with IF. The total **IF** of the articles is **6.29**. **Scopus Hirsh index – 3**.

She has participated with scientific communications in 16 published on abstract on international congresses or conferences and 1 communication has been published in journals with an impact factor that has been, which was cited.

### *2. Scientific activity - dissemination and application of the candidate's scientific and practical achievements.*

The main part of Dr. Petleshkova's research activity is in several areas of neonatology and pediatrics.

Publications with a contribution in a scientific-applied and confirmatory aspect, aimed at establishing changes in vital indicators as physiological markers for procedural pain, are presented in item 13 -- № 1, 4, 6 and in item 14 -- № 1, 2, 6.

An important emphasis in her research activity is the treatment of neonatal pain using non-pharmacological and homeopathic approaches, as well as studies on the influence of perinatal factors on the outcome of pregnancy and postpartum pathology (publ. № 11,12,13 of item 13).

Dr. Petleshkova's scientific interest is focused on tracking the development and complications of small-for-gestational-age children (publ. № 3 of item 14). Publications related to rare congenital diseases are presented (pub. № 5, 7 of item 14).

An original contribution is the development of a complex model for a comprehensive procedure of planning, organizing, monitoring and evaluating the pre-graduate internship of nurses at the Medical University of Plovdiv, which can be used in practical training in other specialties as well (publ. № 5,8,9 of item 13).

### *3. Participation in the implementation and management of projects*

Dr. Petleshkova participated in a total of 4 scientific and educational projects: 3 intra-university projects and 1 national project. in a total of 4 scientific and educational projects: 3 intra-university and 1 national.

### *4. Guidance of specialists*

Dr. Petleshkova is the supervisor of two neonatology specialists and participates in examination boards for enrollment in the specialty "Neonatology" as well as in state examinations of midwives.

## **IV. Assessment of the monographic thesis or equivalent publications, submitted for participation in the competition for "Associate Professor" by the candidate.**

Dr. Penka Vasileva Petleshkova-Angelova participated in the competition with a monograph on the topic: "Current problems of fetal and neonatal pain" (Published by "Lax book" EOOD ISBN: 978-619-189-1).

The monograph reflects the latest state of the art regarding neonatal pain. The methods of pain treatment and the possibilities of combining pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches to its control are described in detail. The perspectives of artificial intelligence in unraveling neonatal pain are presented. Dr. Petleshkova also reports her own results on influencing procedural pain in full-term newborns. The monograph is the first in-depth work in Bulgaria dedicated to neonatal and fetal pain.

## **V. Reflection (citation) of the candidate's publications in national and foreign issues (publication image).**

The citations of Dr. Petleshkova's scientific publications are a total of 102: 35 in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, 5 in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review and 62 in non-refereed journals with scientific reviewing.

**VI. Complex, qualitative assessment of the teaching-methodical and teaching activity, including scientific guidance for students, PhD students, trainee doctors.**

Dr. Petleskova has 12 years of teaching experience. According to the submitted reference, the candidate's study load varies from 379 to 499 hours for the last 3 years, which exceeds the norm for a clinical specialty. Dr. Petleskova-Angelova is also the co-author of two textbooks of neonatology : "Tests in Neonatology" and "Neonatology" (2018).

**VII. Critical notes and recommendations.**

I have no critical remarks regarding the submitted materials with which the candidate participated in the competition.

**VIII. General assessment of the applicant's compliance with the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3, respectively, to the requirements under Art. 2b, para. 5 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria and the requirements specific to Medical University - Plovdiv by directions and for divisions with/without clinical activity, defined in the Regulations for Academic Development at the Medical University - Plovdiv.**

Dr. Penka Petleshkova meets the general conditions for completed higher education, acquired specialty under the competition, "Doctor/PhD/" in the scientific specialty Pediatrics, as well as the mandatory quantitative scientometric criteria required for "Associate Professor".

**IX. Conclusion - meets / does not meet the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria - for the academic position "Associate Professor".**

Dr. Penka Petleshkova, has the authority of a well-established professional, researcher, teacher and supervisor, as well as with international recognition. Her overall scientific and teaching activity meets the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria laid down in the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation and the Regulations of the Medical University-Plovdiv for occupying the academic position " Associate Professor".

Based on the above, I give a positive vote for awarding the academic position of " Associate Professor " to Dr. Penka Vasileva Petleshkova-Angelova MD,PhD and recommend to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to evaluate her overall activity in the competition for awarding the academic position "Associate professor".

7.08.2024 г.

Statement, prepared by:

/ Assoc. Prof. Ina Geneva, MD PhD/

Заличено на основание  
Чл.5 §1, 6."В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679